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September 23, 2011

Ex Parte

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90; Developing an Unified Inter-carrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51; Request for Licensing Freezes and Petition for Rulemaking to Amend the Commission's DTV Table of Allocations to Prohibit the Future Licensing of Channel 51 Broadcast Stations and to Promote Voluntary Agreements to Relocate Broadcast Stations From Channel 51, RM 11626; Implementing a Nationwide, Broadband, Interoperable Public Safety Network in the 700 MHz Band, PS Docket No. 06-229; Fixed and Mobile Services in the Mobile, Satellite Service Bands at 1525-1559 MHz and 1626.5-1660.5 MHz, 1610- 1626.5 MHz and 2483.5-2500 MHz, and 2000-2020 MHz and 2180-2200 MHz, ET Docket No. 10-142

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On September 21, 2011, Lowell McAdam, President and Chief Executive Officer, Verizon, and Kathleen Grillo, Senior Vice President, Federal Regulatory Affairs, Verizon, met with Chairman Julius Genachowski and Josh Gottheimer, Senior Counselor to Chairman Genachowski.

We discussed the critical need for the FCC and Congress to move forward with efforts to free up additional spectrum for commercial use. Mr. McAdam explained that the wireless industry will need more spectrum in the marketplace in order to keep pace with the range of devices and technologies available today and on the horizon. The industry is adopting new, spectrum-intensive technologies, such as mobile video, and in order to meet that demand, carriers must have access to more spectrum and that process must start now. He also stressed that policymakers must focus on getting spectrum to companies that are able to use it to serve the needs of customers and to create jobs. We stated that Verizon is strongly supporting efforts by the Chairman and the FCC, the Administration, and Congress to authorize incentive auctions so that additional spectrum can be made available for new mobile services. Verizon also supports allocating the D-Block to public safety and the establishment of a public safety broadband network through commercial partnerships that would enable public safety to leverage the investments, resources, and expertise of the private sector. Mr. McAdam also encouraged the FCC to facilitate a better functioning secondary marketplace in order for the industry to be able to redistribute spectrum in accordance with market needs.

We discussed challenges faced by Lower 700 MHz A block licensees in deploying services in the A block due to Commission rules requiring wireless licensees to accord interference protection to Channel 51 operations. We stated that this problem effectively precludes A block licensees from providing service in certain geographic markets and has also impaired the development of equipment that operates in the Lower A block. We stressed the need for the Commission to address this problem.

We also discussed universal service and intercarrier compensation reform. We encouraged the Chairman to act quickly to reform these broken systems. These programs are fundamentally flawed. They were designed to subsidize wireline voice services in high-cost areas and the focus now must be to bring broadband to unserved areas.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathon Green". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jonathon" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Green".

cc: (by e-mail)
Chairman Julius Genachowski
Josh Gottheimer